

REMARKS

This paper requests entry of an amendment that would correct an obvious typographical error (of omission) in claim 1. The application would still include claims 1-8, all of which stand rejected by the Office action, and are being appealed herewith in a supplementary appeal brief necessitated by the Examiner reopening prosecution in response to an initial appeal brief mailed Sept. 3, 2003.

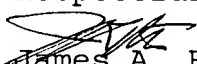
Applicant contends that the amendment for which entry is requested is consistent with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.116 and therefore should be entered. More particularly, it does not touch the merits of the application; it does not raise any new issues; and it does not require any further searching of prior art. It merely correct an obvious typographical error (of omission) in claim 1 and is believed to put claim 1 and so all the other claims of the application in condition for allowance.

It is believed that claims 1-8 are in condition for allowance and their passage to issue is earnestly solicited.

March 1, 2004

WARE, FRESSOLA, VAN DER SLUYS  
& ADOLPHSON LLP  
755 Main Street, P.O. Box 224  
Monroe, CT 06468-0224

(203) 261-1234  
Customer No. 004955

Respectfully submitted,  
  
James A. Retter  
Reg. No. 41,266  
Agent for the Applicant